

In the Woman's World

WAR BRINGS ODD FASHION

Life is full of paradoxes, and this fact is clearly seen in fashions. Is it not just a little bit weird and strange that in a time when people think more about destroying bodies than of saving souls that things ecclesiastical should have such an influence in dress?

This is especially true in Paris, where monks' cassocks and bishops' hats are becoming quite the rage. These coats are interesting because of their drooping and seamless shoulders. They are long and loose fitting everywhere except for the long and well-fitting sleeves.

The simplest of these are made of a fine quality of French flannel. The smartest are a clever combination of two materials, such as a maroon cloth lined in black satin, with a shorter robe and sleeves of gray cloth. Another long coat of this same type is of gray beige velours de laine. A pretty contrast is gained by the broad sash and vest of white cloth buttoning in a diagonal line. The eccentricity of this costume is accentuated by the long, broad, white scarf wound about the neck, ornamented with a row of tiny black velvet buttons.

The hat designed for this kind of coat is very similar to the cardinal's biretta. It is a square cap, with three or four projections above the crown extending from the center outward and usually with a tassel in the center. These are fashioned in scarlet, purple and white.

Even the robes worn underneath suggest a sister's habit both in line and color. The bodice of this costume is almost shapeless except for the cord or sash with which it is belted at the waistline, and the skirt reaches to the feet in many loose and easy folds. Most of the sleeves are extremely long and easy, flowing way below the wrist.

The smartest afternoon gowns of this type are fashioned of maroon cloth or black satin. For full evening wear they are shown both in black velvet or white fall. One of the most unusual of these costumes is made of black satin with a white cloth undershirt that peeps from underneath the loose-fitting folds.

It is otherwise noticeable for the curious harness arrangement of the bodice which is laced to the skirt. Almost as unusual are the knotted sleeves of white crepe de chine.

A PRETTY CARD CASE

The pretty embroidered card cases one sees so much now can easily be fashioned by the girl who is clever with her needle. One seen recently was made of huckaback linen, and the center was decorated with a wreath of tiny French roses. The huckaback outside this wreath was darned by running a colored silk thread underneath the cast-up threads of the linen. This darning extended to within an eighth of an inch of the edge and was then covered with a single outline stitch. The pockets were folded up neatly and the edges finished with a picot buttonhole stitch. The little center wreath was done in Dresden shades and the darning was carried out in beige to match the owner's calling costume.

OLD STYLE SMOCKING AGAIN IN FASHION

An old trimming recently brought back into favor is the smocking which is seen on the new middies of soft linen and on finer waists of lawn. A pretty effect can be gained by using a light-colored thread for smocking on white material.

A skirt to match may be made by smocking instead of shirring it on the waist. For street dresses Norfolk and suspender styles are most popular both for their good lines and simplicity in making. Underskirts to wear with the flaring skirts fit snugly about the hips and hang straight to the knees where a circular flounce is attached.—Woman's World.

The more fruit desserts appear from now on the better for the health of the family.

'AN AUNT FOR UNCLE SAM' IS JULIA LATHROP



Miss Julia C. Lathrop.

Miss Julia C. Lathrop, head of the new Children's Bureau, is the first woman bureau chief Uncle Sam has ever had and the salary of \$5000 attached to this position makes her now the highest paid woman on the government payroll. She is a graduate of Vassar College and a member of its board of governors. After leaving Vassar she made a study of sociology, but it was in Hull House as an associate of Jane Addams that she found abundant material to demonstrate her theories. For the past 20 years she has worked "with her sleeves rolled up." She had herself appointed county visitor of the poor and assigned to the Chicago slums surrounding Hull House, and then went to work on the tenements.

During the great epidemic of smallpox, following the World's Fair, she labored incessantly to keep the pestilence from spreading. As a member of the Illinois State Board of Charities she has accomplished wonders. Her assignment was to visit the various state institutions for the dependent, the criminal, or the delinquent and she started a regular house-cleaning of these institutions, whence had come charges that political appointees were mistreating the inmates.

To see actual conditions for herself she became an inmate of one institution after another, ate their food, slept in their beds, and then made reports that could not go unheeded. Miss Lathrop has written, lectured, talked to small clubs and large ones, called neighborhood meetings and traveled to various state legislatures in behalf of some urgent reform; but she has the reputation of being a peaceful reformer, who has accomplished tremendous results with none of the bitter strife which usually attends such changes. Under her maternal eye the children's bureau is working for the conservation of the American child—its health and efficiency.

HOSIERY BOXES.

The dainty woman does not jumble her stockings helter skelter into a bureau drawer, but keeps each pair separate from the others in a long, narrow box, divided into compartments. This makes it easy, also, to select just the right pair of stockings when one is in a hurry for the day of black silk stockings, with an occasional resort to white silk, is past.

Keep an oyster shell in the tea kettle to prevent an undue accumulation of lime.

Cold meat minced fine and mixed with mashed potatoes in potato cakes makes a good dish.

FREAK BOOTS STAY IN STYLE

"It is better," says the Social Philosopher, "to have a plain, pleasant face than a pair of large feet."

Certainly feet of the feminine order have been greatly in evidence. When the autumn change of styles came one note sounded loud. It was "plain shoes!" Yet there are those women who seem to have acquired the habit of putting much splendor, glitter and color upon their pedals of locomotion. Others, suffering from No. 6s, pray for the quiet seclusion of the fish-tail gowns and hems that touch the floor.

We behold in the window of the boot maker's shop cunning slippers of glittering brocades, of silk of many hues and leathers equally variegated. Dancing slippers of flowered satin are a menace to the woman who would practice economy, and she views with alert interest the cunning shoes of velvet stitched with gold or embroidered in silver thread. Ribbon ornaments and glittering decorations of brilliants help her to discard the notion that plain black boots are the present ruling of the stylists.

Frilled footwear appears; gray suede tops, with side lacings of velvet ribbon, have top frills of black silk, below which are bands of black velvet. A pair of extremely high boots are striped like the zebra in the zoo, with the heels to match, the stripes formed by stripes of black patent leather laid upon a foundation of beige-colored suede. A bewitching pair of white satin slippers has the extremely high heel of black satin studded with brilliants, and with these cinderellas is worn an anklet of black satin, edged with a frill of maline and embroidered with brilliants and sequins. Talk about your twinkling feet! Feet so clad wouldn't twinkle; they would shine and blind one.

The Russian boot did not "take" to any great extent, but a few stray pairs are seen occasionally on the boulevards. The tops are of suede and the ramps and heels of patent leather. On the top of the boot, directly in front, is placed a dangling tassel to match the color of the suede.—Chicago Herald.

HINTS FOR HOUSEWIVES.

Cedarwood dust scattered on the range gives a pleasant odor and nullifies cooking smells.

New tinware will never rust if rubbed with fresh lard and baked in the oven before use.

A little piece of cotton wool in glove tips prevents holes being rubbed by the finger nails.

Herbs for drying should be picked early in the morning, and just before the buds open.

To remove fat from soup pour the soup through a cloth saturated with cold water.

All white garments should be hung in the sunlight; all colored articles in the shade.

Powdered alum added to ordinary stove polish increases the latter's brilliancy.

A pinch of carbonate of soda added to soup will keep it from turning sour.

BE CORDIAL.

It is a great mistake to assume a stiff or formal manner when introduced to another, as the latter will be apt to feel hurt or snubbed. A lady should always be gracious, but not effusive. She should maintain a certain reserve, since she is dealing with a person who is a stranger, although in time she may become a friend. When a man is introduced to a lady it is not necessary for her to rise or to shake hands unless there is some special reason for so doing.

A lady always rises when another woman is presented to her. It is not necessary for her to shake hands, however, unless she wishes to be very cordial. It is the lady's privilege to offer her hand, although if she sees that the man has his hand extended she usually takes it to save him a feeling of awkwardness. Older women, like young people, usually shake hands when young girls are presented to them, and it is kind to do so.

At receptions and balls the hostesses receive the guests with a courtesy, shaking hands only with their friends. While this method of receiving is sometimes adopted at private houses, on very formal occasions, as a rule, the hostess shakes hands with all the guests in her own home. This form of greeting is essential to true hospitality.

WASHING DRESSES.

This is an elastic term, for so few dresses that come under this head will really stand the test of the wash tub, but have to go to the cleaners. White Swiss muslins much embroidered only in exceptional cases cannot be washed. Of course, beautiful as they are, organies are the least renewable even by cleaning. Irish dimity, flowered lawns, organdie, cotton voile and cotton crepe, all these will be worn this summer through, and the most charming Watteau patterns—checks, dots and diamonds, many recalling floral wall papers, are found. Damask stripes find a place on crepe, and some are so exquisitely hand printed they look as if painted. Handkerchief linen in two colors, muslin in floral designs, bordered linens, all are ready to choose from, and there is a certain Watteau pastoral and shepherdess feeling about so many of the patterns that they are particularly pleasing. Pique has been revived and has come to stay.

Slice tomatoes with a bread knife with saw teeth.

EATING WHITE BREAD RUINS YOUR HEALTH

Stop eating white bread if you wish to keep good health.

Dean John P. Sutherland, of the Boston Universal school of medicine, the eminent specialist in dietetics, thus launches a blow at the hitherto sacred American institution—the loaf of white bread.

"Any form of cooked food made from bolted (white) flour dough is an unbalanced ration and as such unfit to eat," says the physician.

"True grain food, like wheat, from which our flour is made, contains 12 mineral constituents—sodium, sulphur, silica, potassium, magnesium, manganese, iron, phosphorus, fluorine, chloride, iodine and lime, each of which plays an important part in body building. Yet over 75 per cent of these combined valuable minerals and protein are lost by the screening of wheat to remove the bran and tailings.

"When we realize what a difference a fraction of 1 per cent of fat or sugar can make in infant feeding we can readily believe that the large reduction in salts and protein brought about in the milling of white flour must be capable of seriously affecting the health of those who habitually use white flour in large quantities as a food.

"White bread, biscuits, rolls, muffins, crackers, cake, pastry, pies and many gravy and soup thickenings are comprised chiefly of white flour, which enters to an unreasonable extent into the diet of the average person. These foods are more attractive to the eye, whiter and flakier, and are considered more palatable than the same foods made from whole wheat flour.

FOR BLACK SHOES.

The best way to keep black shoes from looking worn, and also from breaking, is to dip a small fannel rag in olive oil and rub it into the leather. If it needs further rubbing or wiping, take a fresh dry fannel rag and go over it. This method keeps footwear black without polishing it and provides a dull finish.

The amount of clothing a baby wears should be lessened as the mercury rises higher.

COLD BATHS.

If the cold bath is too much of a shock purchase a coarse bathing mitt, dip it in very cold water and go over the body briskly and quickly. You will not be chilled, and will enjoy all the stimulating effects of a cold shower. There is nothing better than cold water, internally and externally, for a woman of sluggish circulation and nervous temperament.

FACE MASKS.

Face masks are anything but helpful to the complexion. They create the evils they are supposed to cure and which beauty specialists endeavor so heroically to combat. The pores become constricted and the poisonous deposits are shut in, when they should come away freely. All heavy pastes are bad. The skin needs soothing ointments which help the glands to a state of normal activity.

Some people like a coffee flavor to their meat gravy. Add two teaspoonfuls of coffee, clear, just before removing from the fire.

Don't put down carpets without an underlay of some kind. They will wear out quickly if left in direct contact with the flooring.

An agreeable dish is very thin brown toast, covered with tomato sauce.

Sure Way to Kill Rats

Worst and Most Expensive Household Nuisance.

Millions of dollars of property are destroyed yearly by rats simply because people do not appreciate the destructive power of rats and do not know how easy it is to kill them. Simply get a two-ounce box of Stearns Electric Paste from your druggist for 25 cents and use it at night in accordance with the simple directions, and in the morning there should not be a rat in the house.

Nothing else is as effective as Stearns Electric Paste in exterminating rats, mice, cockroaches and other vermin. The government uses it in its fight against rats. Directions in 15 languages in every package.—Ad.

Primitive Wooing

In the early civilization of every people there has existed in one form or another the curious custom of securing a wife by stealing her.

Without doubt it is the cave man's methods persisting among the semi-civilized, and even our custom of elopement can be traced back to the knobbed club days. So it is in darkest Africa today.

Where a wife is not a chattel possession, precisely as much the man's property as his cattle and his furs, the African maiden is wooed and won by her dusky lover by stealth.

Often her parents favor some richer suitor and have chased the lover away from their doorstep, and then it is that the marriage by theft is sure to occur. Watching her house as a cat watches a mouse hole, the loveliest await follows the girl of his heart when she leaves the house to draw water or gather wood for the fire, and out of sight of the house he woos her with soft words.

If she is willing he tells her he will send some of his friends to steal her away—"pula," it is called—and bring her to his house.

Then he calls on half a dozen of his friends and bids them steal the maiden of his heart to him.

At the appointed time the girl goes down to the spring alone, her lover's friends creep up on her, and should she

to modesty struggle they lift her on their shoulders and run with her to her new home.

There she remains until the next morning, when her relatives come and demand six goats as a trespass offering for having carried her away. In addition to these the regular dowry is twenty goats and five head of cattle.

Each goat is given in payment for some definite item of the marriage bill. For instance, one goat on account of the betrothal, one as a fine for the covetous eyes that spied the girl out, two—one for each parent—for the stool on which he sat when he wooed her, two for the relatives' trouble in looking for her when kidnapped, two on account of the talk or "palaver" and two for entering the house or grounds to make love to the girl.

Of course the relatives make the "bill" as long as they can string it out. It is very seldom, indeed, when a marriage does not ensue as the direct result of the "pula," but sometimes the angry parents carry her back home again. In either event the African marriage is one that is not binding forever unless both the husband and wife are pleased. Indeed, like the modern advertising slogan, "all goods not approved may be exchanged," the dusky lover may return his stolen bride after a few months if he finds that he has made a mistake and really doesn't like her.

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